28th January 1931]

*Progress of the North Bank Canal scheme.*

*148 Q.—Mr. K. Singam Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the estimate for the North Bank Canal scheme has been reduced from the original investigated estimate, and if so, the reasons for the same;

(b) whether the shifting of the head to Ayilur forms part of the estimates which are under consideration of the Government for which the Government are issuing orders;

(c) the extent which the construction of the High Level Channel and the Bed Regulator will irrigate, according to the estimates received by the Government;

(d) whether the extent has since been minimized and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the Government has received reports from the Superintending Engineer, Trichinopoly, that as an alternative to the renewing of the Punjapatti Reservoir at a cost of Rs. 80,000 the construction of the High Level Channel and the Bed Regulator if taken up will stand as a permanent flood remedy and also save the present expenditure; and if so, what orders the Government have passed on the same?

A.—(a) Yes. The reduction of the estimate is mainly due to alteration in the design of the canal and its alignment and the consequent reduction of land acquisition charges.

(b) The Government have sanctioned the estimate. It provides for shifting the head to a site below the Ayilur temple.

(c) 19,000 acres of new area besides 1,552 acres of existing irrigation under the Kulittalai-Kattuvari.

(d) No.

(e) No.

## Land Assignment

*Applications by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti for grant of lands.*

*149 Q.—Pandit Ganala Ramamurti: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti has applied to Government for a grant of lands, hundreds of acres in extent, both in Vizagapatam and Guntur districts, or somewhere in the Circars; if so, where, and for what purpose;

(b) what is the actual extent and the estimated value of the lands applied for;

(c) in what stage the applications are at present;

(d) what are the grounds on which his applications are based;

(e) whether the Government have modified the rule that lands should be granted only to members of the depressed, backward and labour classes, poor families, etc.; and

(f) whether any other hon. members of this House have made such darkhasts; and if so, the names of the applicants?